GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:608
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
BLOOD PROCESSING RACKET
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;MOHAN RAWALE;RAM JEEVAN SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Report about a racket in countries across Europe and North America engaged in relabelling contaminated blood with HIV and sending it to the country as healthy blood recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check it?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) WHO has stated that the story basically relates to a criminal case now under process in Austria.This case was taken up in 1996 by the Austrian National Regulatory Authorities against a Company Albovina.The Report referred to is not actually a WHO report and was undertaken by a WHO consultant in his individual capacity for the South African Government.This Consultant is not a blood safety specialist and WHO does not have copies of the report.All blood components/products that are imported into the country are screened for all transfusion transmissible infections.